TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC Four News Sections, Comic Section and Magazine.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

### THIRTY THOUSAND KANSANS HOMELESS

Governor Bailey, After a Trip Through the Stricken Districts, Issues a Statement.

REPLIES TO EUGENE F. WARE.

Pension Commissioner's Claim That State Needs No Outside Aid Strongly Criticised by Executive.

Ware regarding the needs of Kansas flood

word has gone forth that we need no more plot. who have suffered from the recent floods, and especialty that this has been proclaimed by any one claiming to be a representative

stricken district, including Kansas City, against them. Argentine, North Topeka and the fertile valley between Topeka and Kansas City, and from what I saw and heard the calamtry that has befallen our State is more pmilling than was feared before the waters receded, and while the loss of life was less, the property loss and suffering is many times greater than was entailed by the Gal-

veston disaster, "True, Kansas is prosperous, and her people are generous and charitable, and will meet to the limit of their ability the demand upon their charity, but when the limit of Kansas's generosity is exhausted the fact will still remain that we will be hundreds of thousands short of having the means to meet the demands of those who have a claim upon our humanity, and in the great calamities that have befallen the different sections of our country in the past | tragedy and supped together at the Ser-Kansas has responded from her bounty.

"We contributed generously to the relief of Johnstown and of Charleston, and in money, clothes and food supplies to the extent of nearly \$500,000 were sent to the flood sufferers of Galveston, and this was done with the conditions that appealed to our charity and our humanity.

"To-day Kansas finds more than thirty thousand of her people practically homeless from no fault of their own and one of her fertile valleys, representing an area two undred miles long and five miles wide that but a few days ago was covered by happy somes and filled with promise, is now a

gatory waste, In view of all these facts I wish to say to the charitably inclined everywhere, your contributions will be welcome; they are needed to relieve the necessities of the hour foliar will be used to relieve the sufferings of those who were deserving and

#### ROYALTY AND NOBILITY ACCLAIM MELBA'S RE-ENTREE.

SPECIAL BY CABLE TO THE NEW YORK SERALD AND THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC. London, June 13 .- (Copyright, 1903.)-Mme Melba once more proved that hers is a name to confure with when she made her re-entree Thursday night at Covent Garden in what is described as quite the best and most characteristic of her operation impersonations, that of Mimi in "La Bo-

From the King and Queen downward everybody of note in London society seemed to be present, although in reality many persons must have been disappointed in obtaining seats, all of which were sold

The King and Queen were occupying the royal box before the curtain went up, but shortly afterwards the King went down to the omnibus box, where he sat with Marquis de Soveral, Lord Clarendon and

Lady de Grey, in black and silver, with a lovely diamond and pearl ornament round her neck, was accompanied by the Duchess of Mariborough. Mr. Alfred de Rothschild brought Mr. and Mrs. Cornwallis-West with him, and on the other side of the house might be seen Mrs. John Drexel, in pale blue, with a small crown of diamonds and turquoise and huge pearls on her cor-

The musical critic of Truth says: "Miss Mary Garden has made quite a dramatic creation of her Juliet. Most prima donnas prefer to depict the youthful damsel of Verona as a poetic and girlish instead of Verona as a poetic and girlish instead of a rather knowing creature, but Miss Garden's new reading has its merits." Mme Lillian Blauvelt has been criticised

some quarters for wearing a blond wi Marguerite in "Faust," and somebod has laid it down that there are more brunettes than blonds in Nuremburg, but op static tradition is derived from Amy Schef-Mme. Mician-Carvaino, and arternatus Christine Nilsson. Mme. Patti frequently were her own dark hair.

#### RAILROAD ROBBERS THWARTED.

Fifty Armed Men Sent From Joplin to Empire Junction, Kas.

from secret-service officers of the Frisco road, fifty well-armed men left Joplin early to-day on passenger train No. 140 for Empire Junction, Kas., two miles west of Galena, Where it was reported ropbers had planned to hold up the train.

The plot was discovered last night and a telephone message was sent to Joplin for arm d men. When Empire Junction was and that of the Queen, in the suggestion reached there were no robbers in sight.

#### COTTON AGAIN ADVANCED.

Excited Session of New Orleans Exchange Yesterday.

New Orleans, June 13 .- To-day's session in citing in the present buil campaign. Prices at the opening advanced from 11 to 34 points and closed 7 to 31 points higher.

### GENERAL TURNER CAPTURED.

Charged With Complicity in Famous "Quarter House" Battle.

Middlesboro, Ky., June 13 .- "General" Turner, brother of Lee Turner, charged with complicity in the celebrated "quarterhouse" battle, was captured last night by the Sheriff and lodged in the Pineville, Ky., jail to-

### KING ALEXANDER DIES ON KNEES LIKE A CRAVEN. HIS GRAVE YEAR AGO.

First Authentic Account of the Assassination Shows That He Made No Defense of His Beautiful Wife, but Begged Piteously for His Life-Promises to Renounce the Crown, Send His Wife Away or Do Anything to Please Assassins.

#### EXECUTION REVEALS A FORMER CONSPIRACY, WHICH FAILED.

Semila, Hungary, June 12 .- From an intimate personal friend of the new Premier of the Servian Provisional Government, Avakumovics, the Associated Press correspondent has received the following account of the tragedy in Belgrade, which he is assured is absolutely authentic:

These facts will be set forth in an official Topeka, Kas., June 12.-Governor Balley protocol, which has not yet been drafted to-night gave to the Associated Press the following reply to Pension Commissioner that is yet known officially being contained in the verbal report made to the Premier "I regret more than I can tell that the by the officers concerned in executing the

aid from outside the State, for our people Six weeks ago one of the officers in the secret warned the King of what was going on, when all the officers concerned were transferred to points in the interior, the "Within the last week I have visited the King fearing to take stronger measures

> About the same time a certain lady was sent to Geneva to see Prince Peter Kara-Georgevitch and submit to him a proposition that he come to Servia as King upon his agreeing to accept a new constitution based upon liberal principles.

AGREED TO KILL KING.

Prince Peter accepted the conditions. As soon as the conspirators obtained this assurance that the Kingdom would have a new sovereign, they decided to kill King Alexander and Queen Draga. Colonel Maschin, Queen Draga's brother-in-law, was the leader of the conspiracy.

A number of officers came to Belgrade from interior posts on the night of the bische Kron restaurant, where the final detalls were arranged.

At midnight they proceeded from the restaurant to the palace and forced the door leading to the royal apartments, using dyna-

When the officers entered they could find nobody-the King and Queen, alarmed by the noise of their approach, having concealed themselves. For two whole hours the officers hunted through every nook and corner of the royal apartments without success. Then they found the King's adjutant, Lazar Petrovics, and compelled him to lead them to the King's hiding place. He took them to the bathroom and pointed to a secret door in the wall, opening upon a staircase leading to the roof.

CROUCHED BEHIND DOOR. Behind this door crouched the King and Queen. When the conspirators were assured of their prey they promptly shot and killed the adjutant.

Meanwhile the King fell upon his knees they would not kill him. The officers answered roughly, "It is too

late," and fired at him. The Queen also fell on her knees and the officers, applying a degrading epithet. told her she had been Queen long enough. have revealed the plot.

New York, June 12.-An organized cam-

"I WILL DEFEND MY THRONE

One of the conspirators, after submitting the Queen to gross indignities, slashed her with his sword, and the other officers fired at her.

The King was also slashed with sabers. The conspirators then dragged the King and Queen into the front apartments and threw them over the balcony upon the lawn in front of the palace, which is separated from the street by an open fron fence, The King and Queen lived for one and

two hours afterwards. SHOT WHILE EMBRACING.

Meanwhile two of the officers summoned the Queen's two brothers from their home to the house of the commander of the Beigrade division, where they were offered a glass of water and told to bid each other farewell. In the very moment they embraced each other the officers shot and killed them.

One hundred soldiers, commanded by two officers, at the same time surrounded the house of Minister of War Paylovics and summoned him to open the door. The Minister looked from a window and the soldlers fired at him, wounding him. The Russian military attache, who lived in the same house, hearing the noise, rose and dressed himself in his Russian uniform and attempted to remove the Minister to his apartment.

The others ordered him to go away, and he, seeing the hopelessness of the situation, departed. The soldiers then entered the house and shot and killed the Minister. whose body was left on the floor and was not discovered until 10 o'clock in the morning, when it was found by his son-in-law and daughter, who had escaped. FORMER CONSPIRACY.

Since the tragedy occurred the real facts of an attempt upon the persons of the King and Queen a month ago have become known. The conspirators at that time engaged the services of a young Bohemian. the son of a tailor living in Belgrade. He obtained a position in the kitchen of the Grand Hotel of Belgrade to learn cookery. He proved so intelligent that a little late he was given employment in the royal kitchen.

Here again he proved very efficient, and was intrusted with the duty of preparing the food for the royal table, taking it from the cooking utensiis and placing it in dishes, which he handed to lackeys,

He now began to appear very prosperous and took French lessons. He came one day to his teacher, a widow living in Belgrade, in a jubilant state, wearing a new suit of clothes and saying that he was earning 160 dinars (about \$32) a month. The same evenand begged for life, offering to yield to ing, while preparing a dish for the King, every demand, to sign any document, to he mixed poison with the food. The head agree to leave the country, or to send Queen | cook detected him in the act and promptly Draga away- anything, everything-if only informed the King, and the youth was shot immediately.

His parents were brought to the palace and told the facts of the case, and were compelled, under threats of death, to tell asked pardon for her conduct, but one of | everybody that their son had killed himself. Since the tragedy the youth's parentr

WITH MY SWORD IN HAND."

# Specifications Prepared by Louis

G. Kregel Opened After His Death.

PROVIDES FOR CEMENT WALLS.

Widow Says That Her Husband's Peculiar Wishes Will Be Carried Out in Every Particular.

Louis G. Kregel, president of the Kregel
Casket Company, died yesterday at his
nome, No. 4213 West Belle place, from an
Clifford Hambley of No. 1938 Papin street,

home. No. 423 West Belie place, from an attack of typhold fever.

A year ago Mr. Kregel told the superintendent of his coffin factory, as well as his wife that he had drawn plans and specifications relative to the manner in which his grave was to be built. These plans he placed in the vault at his home, with instructions that they were to be examined after his death.

Mrs. Kregel remembered the peculiar return of typhold for the properties of the remember of shots were exchanged and the remember of the runs argued residents of

after his death.

Mrs. Kregel remembered the peculiar request of her husband, and yesterday inspected the papers which he had prepared.

Mr. Kregel's plans, which he had drawn himself, revealed most peculiar ideas. A diagram of the proposed grave was shown and the following specifications were made: "The abutment, or base, upon which the casket is to lay, shall be built of solid and

asting material.
"On each side of the grave there shall be "On each side of the grave there shall be built a wall of concrete, two feet in thickness, extending from the base of the grave to within a few inches of the surface.

"The casket shall be copper-lined and be inclosed in two boxes in order that the remains shall be kept perfectly dry.

"The concrete walls must be perfectly dry before the dirt is thrown on the grave, and the top must be scaled with concrete."

and the top must be scaled with concrete-Mr. Kregel's idea was to make his grave an air chamber, and his request will be followed in detail.

Mr. Kregel was 44 years old. He was born in Garneville, Ia., and spent his early manhood in Nebraska City. Neb. He came to St. Louis twenty-two years ago and in 1582 organized the Mound City Coffin Com-

A factory was established at Second and Later he organized the Kregel Casket Company and built the present factory at Eighteenth street and Cass avenue, Mr. Kregel was successful, both as a

Air. Kreget was successful, both as a business man and as an inventor. When he was 15 years old he invented a windmill pattern, which was afterward used with much success. Many of the patterns used in his factory were designed by him. He had served as president of the Furniture Board of Trade and was president of the Furniture Gazette Publishing Company.

BRATTON MAKES STATEMENT ABOUT TROUBLE.

After his arrest, Bretton made as well as a director in the National Cas-

Mr. Kregel is survived by a wife and two daughters. The latter are Alma and Vio a, aged 29 and 17 years, respectively. Mr. Kregel's father lives in Nebraska City and is 85 years old.

The funeral with be held Tuesday after-noon at 2 o'clock, at the residence. Inter-ment will be made in Beliefontaine Ceme-

#### MATOS PROMISES TO BEHAVE IF HE MAY RETURN HOME.

Venezuelan Rebel Issues Proclamation Asking All His Followers to Lay Down Their Arms.

Willemstad, June 13 .- General Matos, leader of the revolutionary forces of Venelamation last night to the Venezuelan nation, asking all the people who followed him to lay down their arms. The revolution, he says, is ended by the unanimous consent of all the chiefs.

General Matos will write to President Castro, recognizing him as the President, and begging for himself and family and his thirty-four followers, some of whom are this island, as well as for the members of the Guzman Blanco family, who are also here, the right to return to Caracas. The revolutionary chief promises that he will no longer interfere in the politics of Ven-

#### SENT BULLET INTO HIS BRAIN. David Nisbet Ended His Life at Evansville, Ind.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Evansville, Ind., June 13.-David Nisbet. aged 55 years, once prominent in business circles in this city, took his life by shooting this afternoon. He had returned from a trip to St. Louis and was despondent. Going to a well-known club he went unstairs and sent a bullet into his temple. He died in Nisbet until recently was the head of one

of the largest wholesale dry goods firms of Evansville, and at the head of a steamboat line. He comes from one of the o.d families of the city. The steamer D. A. Nisbet was named in honor of his father Nisbet was a brother-in-law of G. J. Gram mer of Cleveland, O., who has been traffic manager of the Lake Shore Railroad for a number of years.
The body will be buried here.

#### CALLS UNION CONTRACT SPECIES OF SLAVERY.

Chicago, June 13.-Sixteen strikers, alleged to have violated an injunction obtained by the Kellogg Switchboard and Supply Company, were toay fined \$10 each in Judge Holdom's "For a corporation to be compelled

. to contract with a union to have in • its employ only union men," he said • • In his decision, "is a species of slav-• ery and unlawful." The case will be appealed. E++++++++++++

#### ASPIRANTS FOR HOOK'S PLACE.

Appointee to Circuit Court May Not Take Office Until November.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL Topeka, Kas., June 13.-It is believed that United States District Judge W. C. Hook ber of the Eighth Circuit Court until after his confirmation in November.

Many candidates are already announced to succeed Hook. United States Senator Burton favors Charles Blood Smith of To peka. Senator Long has not announced his holce. Long's close friends and advisors, Governor Bailey, Cyrus Leland and Morton Albaugh, will favor Justice Johnston or Pollock of the State Supreme Court, and it is believed that Senator Long will indorse

### COFFINMAKER PLANNED ATTEMPT TO OPEN LEVEE ENDS IN ONE FATALITY.

Clifford Hamb'ey Is Killed in Course of Pitched Battle on East Side—Victim's Residence Is in St. Louis—Illinois Militiamen and Men Said to Be Employes of John S. Bratton,

### BRATION, WHO IS UNDER ARREST, MAKES A STATEMENT.

Several squads of the Illino's State militia and a company of citizens, supposed to be employes of . ohn S. Bratton, engaged in a pitched battle in East St. Louis late last night, following an alleged attempt to open

Clifford Hambley of No. 1938 Papin street, St. Louis, was shot and died while being in driving them away from the embank-

the noise of the guns aroused residents of East St. Louis, and hundreds ran to the cene of the shooting, only to retreat when they saw the fierce conflict in progress. SAID MEN WERE

CUTTING EMBANKMENT.

About 11 o'clock last night word reached he central part of East St. Louis that Bratton's men were dutting the Second Belt embankment.

This embankment lies near Bratton's premises, part of which is inundated. An pening in the embankment would release he water on Bratton's ground, but, it is alleged, would result in the overflow going into dry lands in the central section of the

A policeman hurried to Bratton's place when the report reached police headquar-It is alleged that as soon as they made heir appearance armed men ordered them a downtown notion store and for two years

to retreat. The special officers returned to police headquarters. Chief Purdy disputched several squads of militia to the scene, after hearing the report of the special policemen. The militia,

it is said, surrounded Bratton's home, and a minute later firing began, It is not known positively which side started the firing, but for twenty minutes following the fusillade gave every evidence of

a fierce battle, and the excitement was in-

After his arrest, Brotton made the fol-

"While patrolling the dike with a party of men, we noticed several strangers evidently attempting to cut the embankment. I ordered my men to drive the marauders off. and this we succeeded in doing without us-

"They returned in a short time, however from two directions, and we had difficulty ment. Several of the men who foined the

It is 'hought that others were injured. original party wore tin stars.

"Just after we succeeded ip driving off the men the second time, a third party appeared and opened fire. We thought that they also wished to cut the dike and made

> "After several shots had been exchanged, we saw that the new arrivals were soldiers, and called to them to cease firing. It was then we learned that they had come to assist in driving off the men who had attempted to cut the embankment, and that the fight had occurred through a misunder standing." A Republic reporter visited the Second

Belt embankment this morning and found that it-had not been cut, nor was there any indication that it had been tampered with. The embankment is owned by the Ter-minal Belt Railway Company, and it has remained steadfast during the high-water period. The alleged cut was attempted about 20 yards north of the Rock road.

John S. Bratton is a well known turfman.

Hambley was 21 years old and lived with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hambley,

serves. He was in East St. Louis Friday night and returned home in time to go to work yesterday morning. His father advised him not to return to East St. Louis last night, but the boy thought it his duty and departed about 6 o'clock.

has been a member of the local Naval Re-

At 2 o'clock this morning a squad of St. Louis Naval Reserves arrested several citizens in connection with the shooting of Clifford Hambley. Among the prisoners placed in the temporary guardhouse at the High School were Joe Messick and Chester L. Fox.

The Naval Reserves are under the com-

### MRS. VROOMAN FAINTS WHEN COURT GRANTS HER DIVORCE.

Husband Withdraws His Defense-Evidence Presented Declares Whose Name Was Given-Wife's Maiden Name Is Restored.

Trenton, Mo., June 3.-An absolute divorce was granted to Mrs. Amne Vrooman, wife of Walter Vrooman, in Judge Stepp's Court here this morning, and her maiden name, Amne Grafflin, returned to her. Waiter Vrooman was not in the court

room, either in person or by attorney. He made absolutely no defense, and only three witnesses beside ! rs. Vrooman were pres ent to testify, two being former associates of Walter Vrooman in his co-operative propaganda and the third a character witness for Mrs. Vrooman

After Judge Stepp had ordered the clerk Vrooman unassisted, walked from the courtroom, but before she reached the open air she fainted. She was taken into the County Treasurer's office, where she 'e-She then went to the home of Mrs S H Bagley, where she formerly

Mrs. Vrooman was on the stand, and in a low tone told her story. She was married to Walter Vrooman, she sald, in Baltimore in 1597, and lived with him until March 31 1903, when she learned that he had been living with a girl whom he had first known in Kansas City, and who had worked for him in New York.

From that date until this she has refused to see him. This was told in almost a whis per, and was not audible to a dozen prople in the courtroom. There was a great straining of ears to hear the story of Mrs. Vrooman of her husband's perfldy. Her story was told in answer to questions from be attorney, asked in a low tone. Several times Judge Stepp requested both the plaintiff and her attorney to speak louder
John W. Breidenthal of Kansas City, Kes.

testified that Mr. Vrooman had told Lim be had associated with the co-respondent in the

case, both in New York and Kansas City. Mr. Vrooman, according to this testimony, also testified that he expected to make the girl his wife just as soon as the way was clear. This was before Mrs. Vrooman had instituted divorce proceedings. T. E. Palmer, also of Kansas City, for a

time secretary to Mr. Vrooman, and assoclated with co-operative schemes of the promoter, was on the witness stand, and told much the same story as the witness before him. He stated that Walter Vrooman and he had had a talk about the co-respondent the last part of April.

Vrooman told him that he intended to support the girl much the same as he would his own daughter, and after he had educated her and sent her through several colleges, he intended to marry her, in order that he might have a child with the Vrooideas and ideals. He said Vrooman told him he loved the girl and wanted to marry her and would, as soon as he could lawfully

structed him to make the entry read "absolute divorce" and that the maiden name Amne Grafflin, be returned to the defend-

All of the property operated under the management of Vrooman while in this city is now owned by Mrs. Vrooman. This in cludes a beautiful home, a farm valued at \$100,000 and a drug store. Ruskin College, scheme, recently removed to Glen Ellyn where it became a part of Ruskin University, composed of a number of schools to Chicago and Illinois cities. Vrooman is in of the college and owns nothing in Tren-

## FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL WEDS WITH CONSENT OF HER PARENTS

That many a prophetic word is spoken in jest was demonstrated by the marriage of Miss Alice Probst. 14 years old, of No. 3133 New Ashland place, to Charles O. Sutter, Friday, following a playful remark made by the child-bride's Sunday-school teacher. Last Sunday afternoon Alice Probst wore her first long dress. The change was noted by Miss Anna Peterson, who had been in-structing Miss Probst for several months. "You look lovely in long skirts," said Miss Peterson to her pupil, "but, remem-ber, I don't want to lose you for awhile. You know girls are apt to think of getting married when they lengthen their

Miss Probst laughed merrily at the banter of her teacher, as did her classmates, and little did they think that before an-other Sunday the words would have be-

come prophetic.
Miss Probst told the story to her relashall represent the story to her reactives and sweetheart. It was considered a good joke by all but her sweetheart. He considered it a good tip and after a little reflection determined to ask Miss Probst if it wasn't a good idea "to begin to think of marriage," as they had been friends for

more than a year.

Miss Probst referred her sweetheart to her father, Frederick Probst, who, after finding that the couple had fully deter-mined to wed, sanctioned the wedding. He accompanied his daughter and her fiance to the marriage license office, where a license was procured, and the marriage ceremony was performed in the parlor at The young couple will live for the present



MRS. CHARLES O. SUTTLE, hild who married as soon as sh long dresses.

with the bride's parents. Charles O. S is a motorman, working for the Tr

### FIRST EFFORT TO LOOP-THE-LOOP ENDS SERIOUSLY.

Frank Reis's Bicycle Swerves From Track When Near End of Incline.

STRIKES GROUND ON HIS HEAD.

Amateur Assures Manager Innes He Is Confident That He Can . Make Perilous Trip in Safety,

#### TRICK RIDER FOR MANY YEARS.

St. Louis Man Rendered Uncone scious and Sustains Internal Injuries-Many Friends
Witness Accident.

irst time, Frank Ries, residing at No. 2001 Howard street, was probably fatally injured last night by his wheel swerving from the track when it was thought he had made a successful trip.

Ries is at the Emergency Hospital at Suburban Garden, in a precarious condi-

The accident occurred at the Suburbad

Ries has been a trick bicycle rider for several years, and is said to possess more nerve than the ordinary person. Several days ago he went to Mr. Innes, manager of the Suburban Garden, and asked him to



FRANK RIES. Bicycle rider who was seriously injured while "looping the loop" on his wheel at Suburban Garden last night.

be allowed to make the ride. After a conference Manager Innes decided to grant Mr. Innes said that Ries convinced hi

that he was capable of making the trip in

safety and for this reason he was granted The loop at the garden had been built sccording to the plans of Diavolo, who was billed to make the ride. For reasons unknown he did not appear to fill his engagement and the loop was left standing. When Ries was permitted to make the descent he had the loop reconstructed to suit his ideas and the work was not finished

until several hours before he made his

perlious ride. was at the garden, making preparations for the ride. He was very confident his initial trip would be made in safety.

When time came for him to make the ride 300 persons were watching him. He was pulled to the top of the incline and was clad in a bathrobe. The wheel he rode is one specially constructed for the purpose. It weighed about

ninety-eight pounds and the tires are more solid than the ordinary. He started on his perilous ride. When he had proceeded down the incline about twenty feet his wheel swerved, but he soon got

Down the incline he went at a terrific

speed and as smoothly as one could wish. Around the loop he went, and when about three-quarters of the distance his wheel He went off from the inside of the loop

and barely missed the incline which leads to the loop. The front wheel of the bicycla was crushed. Riley fell on his head and

He was picked up and conveyed to the nursery and placed in the charge of Mrs. Wyatt, the matron

Previous to his ride on the loop, Manage Innes had requested Doctor T. S. Biston to be at the grounds in case some accident

should happen. He arrived soon after I had been taken to the hospital.

Ries was unconscious when picked up and was in that condition early this morn-A hasty examination by the physician disclosed that he sustained internal injuries.

No bones were broken.

been warned to do.

Frank W. Ries, his father, soon arrived, It is said he is the originator of the sho the-chutes. It was stated that young Ries had shot the chutes on a wheel successfully several hundred times.

The reason for his failure to make the trip is said to have been his failure to

properly lock his front wheel as he had

A pathetic incident took place at the ital when his sister and sweetheart came to see him. They were both almost prostrated with grief. Ries is only 24 years old.

It is said that these two women witne his trip on the loop and when they him fall fainted,

#### paign of slander was conducted from Vienna a year or so ago concerning the conjugal relations of King Alexander and Queen Draga, which descended to the vilest sage. Mrs. Claude Watney's emeralds were the the Queen, I cannot understand how people calumnies. The European edition of the Herald, wishing to set the matter right, obtained an interview with the two sovereigns, which throws some light on the motives of the accusations. These included

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

throne, that the royal couple were not living happily together and that King Alexander was about to abdicate. A Herald correspondent was received in the palace at Belgrade, and to him King

hints that there would be no heir to the

Alexander said: "You may declare on my behalf that all the rumors concerning my abdication, or that there exists any agitation in my country in reference to the successor to the throne, are absolutely false and can only come from systematic enemies of my dynasty or from people whose brains are deranged. Such rumors are totally fantastic and just as probable as would be the re port that I ate human flesh or that the peo

ple in the streets of Belgrade had wings." NOT AN URGENT MATTER." "And the succession, your Majesty?"

"Is there common sense, I ask you," said the King, who was now aroused and spoke both swiftly and energetically, "at my age that there will not be a successor? Under the circumstances I cannot admit the question at all. "But we may have an heir at any mo-

ment. It would, therefore, in my mind, be only making new complications to appoint an heir-apparent not attached to me, and who would at once become pretender. I do not, therefore, with the prospect of twenty to thirty years' reign before me, see the necesisty, under the circumstances, of appointing an heir-apparent, and my people are with me in this matter.

"After a lapse of ten years, if I have no children, the question will be brought up for consideration before the National

"Nor has your Majesty considered the question of abdication at any time?" "Any such reports are absolutely false, for the reason that the post of sovereign is not a position which can be deserted.

"Should my throne be menaced, I will defend it, sword in hand, at the head of my faithful army, acting in a manner befitting the grandson of the creator of the New "As for all the ill that is said concerning

can speak of the Queen of a civilized coun try in a way which would be indecent of one of the most savage lands, "The Queen," and his face lighted up in such a way that there was no mistaking "is much loved throughout the

country, and is well known for her great QUEEN DRAGA SPEAKS. Queen Draga next receiv d the Herald

correspondent and without waiting for him to put the first question said: "I consider the King to be a clever an. He knows his political men and his country thoroughly well. So he is fully capable of conducting political matters himself. On such subjects, therefore, he needs no advice from me, and I should be incapable of giving him any. I am fully engaged in what seems to me to be the fitting work of any one in my position, that is, in work

"Excuse the question"-The Queen kindly interpreted that which I would rather not have asked by cutting

"Yes, the reports of my relations with the King," she replied eagerly, as though the subject was one she would gladly approach, "All reports which say ill of our relations ninable calumnies. I could not wish anything better to my dearest friends than that they should enjoy the thorough happiness in their married lives that we do. The King is affectionate and kind; there is no cloud between us." "Report credits you with urging the King

to resign in return for financial benefits."

VILE CALUMNIES. Queen Draga looked pained, "I know," replied her Majesty, "they stop at nothing. But why when evil-minded people take the trouble to spread false reports don't they go to the pains of getting somewhere near the truth?" "Abdicate! Why should he abdicate? Ab-

man of his age-he is but 25-should be un-"The King is popular with the people. In our recent journey we were acclaimed ev-

surd idea! I ask you, is there any common

Continued on Page Two.